

Office of Science

Washington, DC 20585

JAN 24 2012

Dr. Piermaria J. Oddone Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory P.O. Box 500 Batavia, IL 60510-0500

Dear Dr. Oddone:

Thank you for your letter of January 13, 2012, conveying the preference of Fermilab and the LBNE project management for Liquid Argon technology as the primary choice for the detector media of the far detector. We very much appreciate the careful and thorough consideration given by the collaboration and the project team to the many scientific and technical issues surrounding this important technology choice. The DOE will formally review this decision as part of its project management process at Critical Decision-1 (CD-1), selection of alternatives.

However, in the interest of minimizing overall project costs and maximizing progress against the overall schedule, we recognize that it is important for the project to take important decisions as early as feasible to reduce the number of technical options that need to be actively considered. Therefore, we concur with this choice as the primary technical option to be presented as part of the CD-1 review process. We look forward to working with you to make the LBNE project a success.

Sincerely,

James L. Siegrist

Associate Director of Science for High Energy Physics

cc: Bob Svoboda Milind Diwan Jim Strait